

Amendments to the Claim:

Please amend Claim 69 and enter Claims 70 through 76 to read, as follows.

69. **(Currently Amended)** A method for making a tubular film comprising the steps of:

winding a thermoplastic sheet film on a columnar member with at least two turns so that leading and trailing ends of the wound ~~[[said]]~~ film are positioned ~~placed~~ approximately on a one-normal line normal to ~~[[of]]~~ an outer surface of the ~~[[said]]~~ columnar member without overlapping each other;

fitting a tubular molding member over the ~~on said~~ wound film; and

connecting the leading and trailing ends of the ~~[[said]]~~ film by heating the wound ~~at least said~~ film, the columnar member, and the tubular molding member up to a temperature at which the wound film is softened, thereby forming the wound ~~said sheet~~ film into the tubular film.

--70. **(New)** The method according to claim 69, wherein a thermal expansion coefficient of the columnar member is larger than a thermal expansion coefficient of the tubular molding member.

71. **(New)** The method according to claim 69, wherein when the wound film is in a heated state, a tubular film with a thickness is obtained in accordance with a gap between the columnar member and the tubular molding member.

72. **(New)** The film according to claim 69, wherein the leading and trailing ends of the wound film are butted against each other to form a butted portion.

73. **(New)** The method according to claim 72, wherein the two ends of the wound film are obliquely cut to form a spirally-formed butted portion.

74. **(New)** The method according to claim 72, wherein an angle formed between the butted leading and trailing ends is  $90^\circ$  with respect to a film surface.

75. **(New)** The method according to claim 72, wherein an angle formed between the butted leading and trailing ends is other than  $90^\circ$  with respect to a film surface.

76. **(New)** The method according to claim 69, wherein said sheet film is made from at least one material selected from the group consisting of thermoplastic polyimide, polyetheretherketone, polyethersulfone, and a fluorine resin.--